Bettie Page

DARK HORSE COMICS®

QUEEN OF THE NILE

EPISODE 3 •"SHE DEVIL"• BY JIM SILKE

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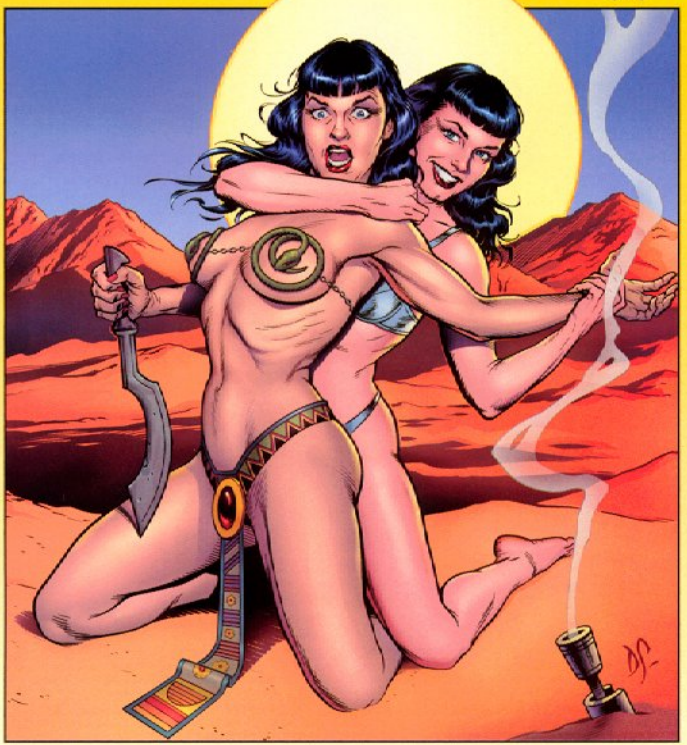
3 OF 3



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Bettie Page

QUEEN OF THE NILE

BY JIM SILKE

EPISODE

3

"SHE DEVIL"

COVER BY DAVE STEVENS

FROM A DRAWING BY JIM SILKE

COVER COLORS BY HOMER REYES

LETTERING BY L. LOIS BUHALIS

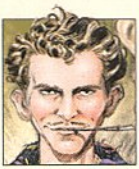
COLOR SEPARATIONS CHRIS HORN · DESIGNER DARCY HOCKETT · EDITOR DAVID LAND · PUBLISHER MIKE RICHARDSON

Special thanks to the one-and-only real Bettie Page, to Dave Stevens who thought up *Bettie Page Comics* back in 1981, to Sabu, Ronald Coleman, and Boris Karloff for their inspiration, and to my models Sara Streeter, Anthony Castillo, Jose Artiga, and Jennifer Fabos.

DARK HORSE COMICS

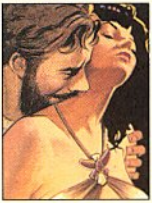
SYNOPSIS OF EPISODES 1&2 "BURIED ALIVE" & "MAD LOVE"

AFTER BETTIE ESCAPED FROM THE *MAD PIRATE KING OF MACAO, LARRY "THE HORSE" POGUE,* IN AN EFFORT TO HIDE HER, MISTAKENLY TRANSPORTED BETTIE AND ABU TO...



...ANCIENT EGYPT, WHERE THE HIGH PRIEST, *IMHOTEP,* FORCED HER TO RAISE THE *GOD THOTH* FROM THE DEAD. THEN, WHEN SHE SET THE OVERHEATED THOTH ON FIRE, THE PRIEST TRIED TO BURY HER ALIVE!

BUT CLEOPATRA, ON LEARNING BETTIE AND SHE WERE EXACT "LOOK-ALIKES", RESCUED BETTIE, THEN FORCED HER TO SEDUCE *JULIUS CAESAR,* IN ORDER TO CONVINCE THE ROMAN GENERAL TO PROCLAIM HER QUEEN OF THE NILE!



BUT CAESAR FELL IN LOVE WITH BETTIE, INFURIATING CLEOPATRA, WHO TRIED TO DESTROY BETTIE'S MAGIC WITH A WHIP. CAESAR RESCUED BETTIE. THEN, FACED WITH TWO IDENTICAL WOMEN, DECIDED TO TEST BETTIE TO SEE IF SHE WAS THE

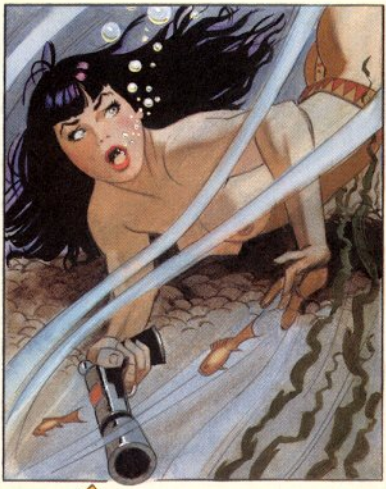
TRUE QUEEN, NOT KNOWING THAT THE FIRST PHASE OF THE TEST REQUIRED BETTIE TO BE THROWN INTO A RIVER FULL OF CROCODILES!

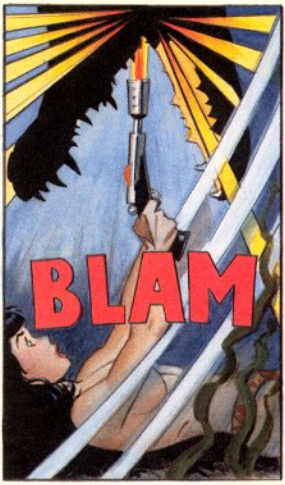
Groan
YIKE!

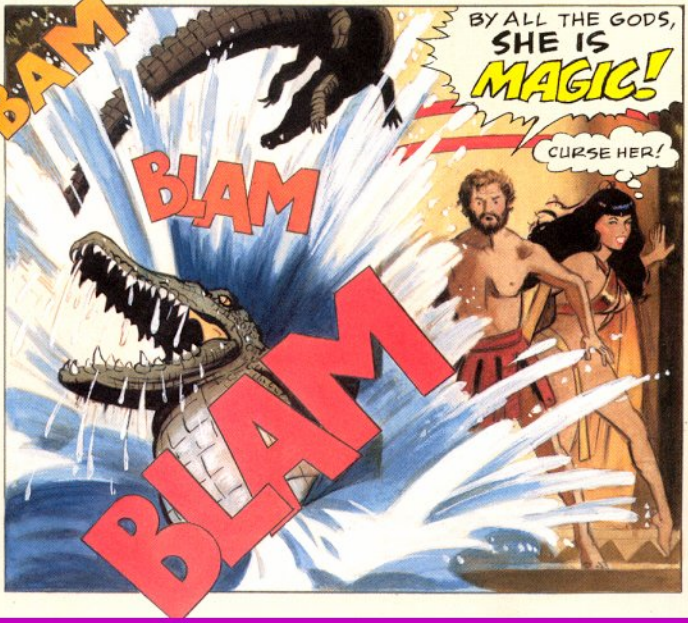
Oh, NO!!!
WHUMP
YOU ARE, INDEED, A DEVIL!
ULP!

ABU! SAVE ME!
FEED! FOR THE LOVE OF ISIS, FEED!
FEED!!
PUNT

Oh, NOOoo!




BLAM


BAM
BLAM
BLAM
BY ALL THE GODS, SHE IS MAGIC!
CURSE HER!

WOW! BETTIE'S SAFE ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE RIVER.
OKAY, YOU SHE-DEVIL! DO YOUR WORST! I'M READY NOW!
USING THE STUNNED CROCODILES AS STEPPING STONES, ABU HEADS FOR BETTIE, AS--
SO SHE'S A GODDESS AFTER ALL!
HARDLY! THE CROCODILES WERE ONLY HER FIRST OBSTACLE.

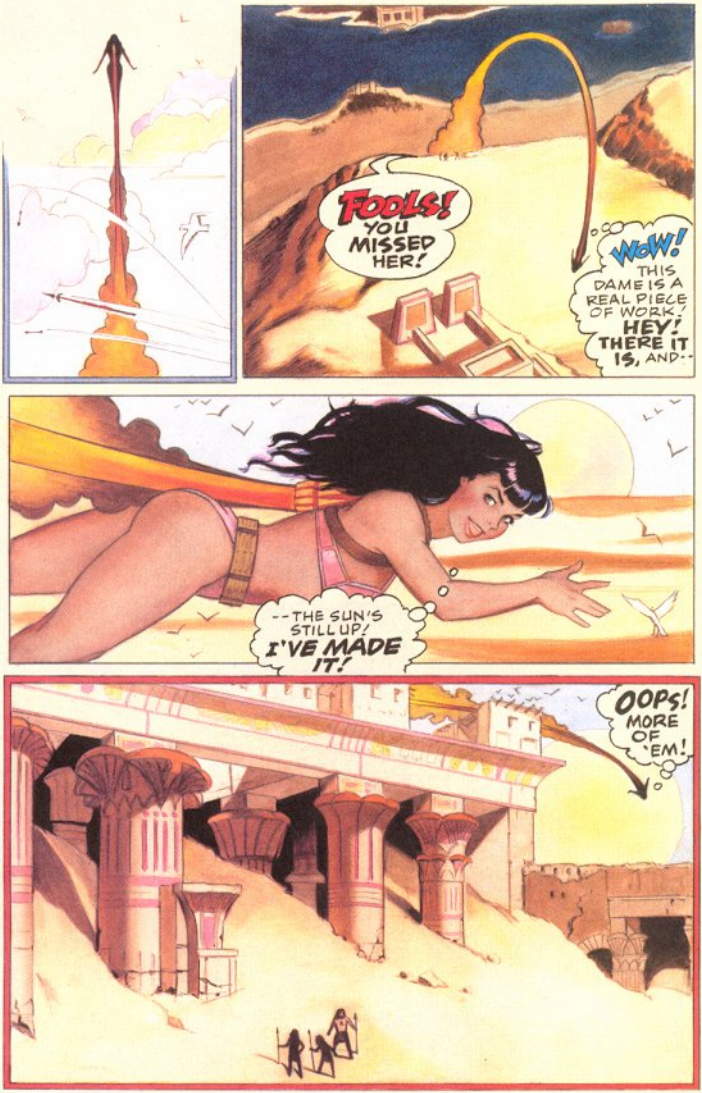
AT THE SAME TIME:
OH, ABU! YOU DID IT AGAIN! AND THIS TIME I AM GOING TO KISS YOU!
KISS LATER! HURRY, MUST! SUN GOING DOWN!
BETTIE DRESSES, THEN--
OH BOY! DOES IT EVER FEEL GOOD HAVING SOME DECENT CLOTHES ON.
WORRY NO! ABU HAS BELT THAT FLIES, EVERY-THING!
IS THAT IT?
NO! TEMPLE ON TOP OF MOUNTAIN.
OH, WOW! I'LL NEVER MAKE IT!

BETTIE STRAPS ON THE FLYING BELT AND RELOADS AS--
I'VE GOT A FEELING THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE AS EASY AS IT LOOKS.
GEE! MAYBE IF I BECOME QUEEN, SOMEONE WILL--
YES! BETTIE BE CARE-FUL!
OH, ABU, YOU'RE SO SWEET.
SMACK
--CARVE ME OUT OF A MOUNTAIN.
LOOK OUT!
Gack

WHOA! THAT'S A BIG BIRD!
YIPE! IT'S AFTER ME!
NO YOU DON'T!
NOW KNOCK IT OFF!

OKAY, BE NASTY! BUT IT'S GOING TO SMART!
WHRAM
AWK
AWK
AWK
I TOLD YA!
EH GAD! BETTIE HOLSTERS HER BLASTER AND--
GOOD LORD!

GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE!
BETTIE HITS THE ACCELERATOR AND--
SHE'S COMING!
SHOOT!
SHOOT


FOOLS! YOU MISSED HER!
WOW! THIS DAME IS A REAL PIECE OF WORK! HEY! THERE IT IS, AND--
--THE SUN'S STILL UP! I'VE MADE IT!
OOPS! MORE OF 'EM!
WITH APOLOGIES TO DAVID ROBERTS, ROYAL ACADEMY.

THAT'S IT, KEEP LOOKING THE OTHER WAY.
HEY, BIG GUYS! CAN ONE OF YOU MAYBE GIVE ME A HAND, HELP ME UNDRESS?
BOY, OH, BOY! EVEN IN A LAND OF HALF NAKED WOMEN, YOU BOZOS FALL FOR IT!

WHRAM
Ta-da!
♪ GOT YA!
Uh-oh, THERE'S STILL MORE. NO, JUST SOME PRIESTS WAITING FOR ME. WELL, HERE I COME.
KOF
KOF
Oh, NO! OUT OF GAS!
GROAN!

BETTER GET THIS OFF, OR I'LL BREAK MY BACK.
YAHUMP
HOORAY! WITH THE LUCK OF THE DEAD ON GORGEOUS, BETTIE LANDS IN SAND.
OF COURSE!
BUT IT'S NOT OVER YET!
YOU!

GOOD GRIEF! THE FATE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST LOVE STORY, AS WELL AS BETTIE'S MODELING CAREER, AND--
--HER LIFE, ARE ABOUT TO BE DECIDED BY
A CAT FIGHT!
UMMF
OW!

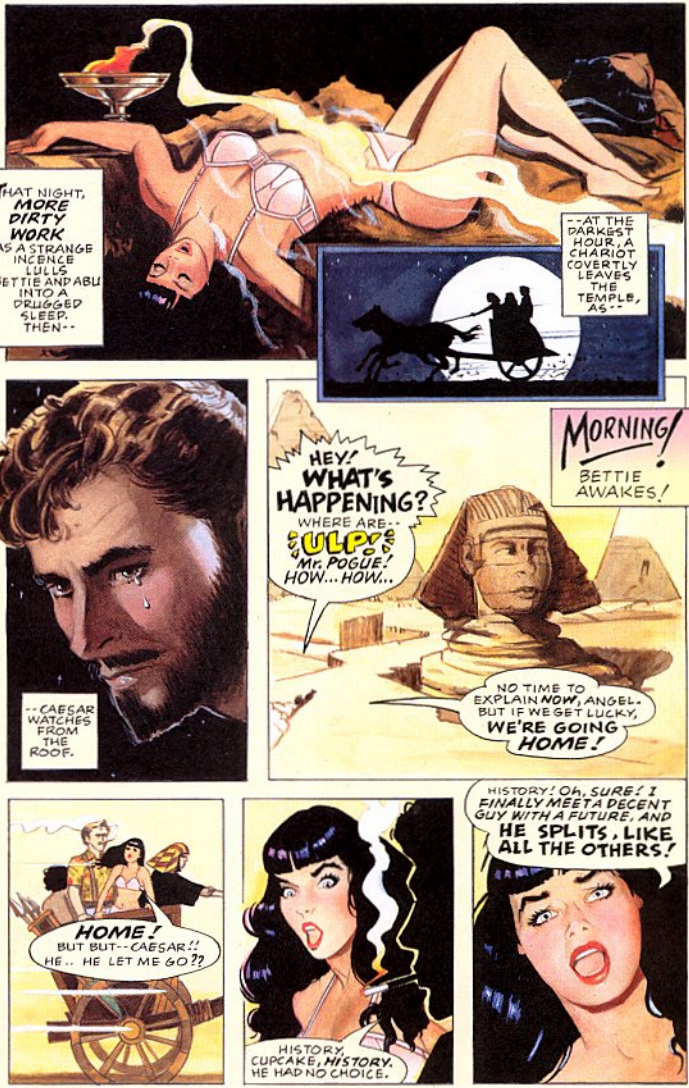
UG
AGGH
UNK
GRR
OOF
KOF

BETTIE FINALLY THROWS CLEOPATRA OFF, THEN--
SOK
I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS, BUT--
--GOSH DARN IT, YOU'VE BEEN ASKING FOR IT!
YES
YES

Oh DARN! I CAN'T DO IT! I JUST CAN'T!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DIE FROM A SNAKE BITE, AND I CAN'T CHANGE HISTORY. IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT!
HENH
BUT GOSH DARN IT!
YOU'RE GONNA GET WHAT'S COMING TO YOU!
SMACK
SMAC

WOWSERS! BETTIE ENTERS THE TEMPLE JUST BEFORE THE SUN SETS AND--
--AN OVERJOYED CAESAR CONGRATULATES HER AS--
--ABU CELEBRATES!
YAHOO! WE SAVED!
GOSH! THIS IS NEAT! I'M A QUEEN, AND CAESAR LOVES ME! I JUST KNOW HE DOES.
AT LAST! THAT NIGHT, IN THE TEMPLE OF ISIS, BETTIE IS PROCLAIMED
QUEEN of the NILE!!

BUT WAIT, ON THE ROOF OF THE TEMPLE, CLEOPATRA'S STILL AT WORK.
YOU STILL DEFY HER, EVEN THOUGH SHE FLIES AND SPITS FIRE?
YES! BECAUSE SHE'S NOT A QUEEN! SHE'S AN ILLUSION! A DREAM! AND WHEN I TAKE HER PLACE IN THE MORNING, NO ONE WILL KNOW THE DIFFERENCE, EXCEPT FOR YOU. BUT YOU WILL SAY NOTHING, BECAUSE YOU KNOW THAT--
--A QUEEN WHO CAN NOT USE THE KNIFE IS USELESS TO ROME!
REGRETABLY, CLEOPATRA, YOU ARE RIGHT.
OF COURSE, BUT YOU WON'T REGRET IT. COME, A MAGICIAN FROM THE FUTURE HAS APPEARED OUT OF THE SKY, AND YOU'LL WANT TO HEAR WHAT HE HAS TO SAY.
MOMENTS LATER, IN THE THRONE ROOM, LARRY, "THE HORSE" POGUE IS BROUGHT BEFORE CAESAR. HE EXPLAINS EVERYTHING, THEN:
IT'S ALL TRUE, GREAT CAESAR! IF YOU DON'T DROP THE CUPCAKE, NO MATTER HOW HUNG UP ON HER YOU ARE, THEN YOU'LL CHANGE HISTORY, AND THAT MEANS CLEOPATRA WILL NOT BEAR YOUR SON.
MY SON?
THAT'S THE STRAIGHT SKINNY, CAESAR.
IT'S IN ALL THE HISTORY BOOKS. SO I SUGGEST YOU JUST GIVE THE "BON BON" TO ME, AND I'LL MAKE HER DISAPPEAR.
YES, YES. TAKE HER!
TAKE HER!


THAT NIGHT, MORE DIRTY WORK AS A STRANGE INCENCE LULLS BETTIE AND ABU INTO A DRUGGED SLEEP. THEN--
--AT THE DARKEST HOUR, A CHARIOT COVERTLY LEAVES THE TEMPLE, AS--
--CAESAR WATCHES FROM THE ROOF.
MORNING! BETTIE AWAKES!
HEY! WHAT'S HAPPENING? WHERE ARE-- ULP! Mr. POGUE! HOW... HOW...
NO TIME TO EXPLAIN NOW, ANGEL. BUT IF WE GET LUCKY, WE'RE GOING HOME!
HOME! BUT BUT--CAESAR!! HE.. HE LET ME GO??
HISTORY, CUPCAKE, HISTORY. HE HAD NO CHOICE.
HISTORY! OH, SURE! I FINALLY MEET A DECENT GUY WITH A FUTURE, AND HE SPLITS, LIKE ALL THE OTHERS!

YEAH, THINGS ARE TOUGH ALL OVER. BUT YOU'RE NO LOSER, CUPCAKE. TAKE A LOOK! CAESAR'S ALREADY CHANGED HIS MIND AND SENT A LEGION TO FETCH YOU BACK—
YOU'RE THE GAGA, ANGEL. YOU GAVE HIM A DREAM, AND HE'LL NEVER LOSE IT! EVERY TIME HE LOOKS AT CLEOPATRA, HE'LL THINK OF YOU!
GOSH!!
YEAH! NOW STOP DREAMIN' AND MOVE IT. YOUR FRIEND HERE SAYS HE CAN HIDE US IN THIS PYRAMID.
IMHOTEP! FRIEND! HE WANTS TO BURY ME ALIVE!

WELL, NOBODY'S PERFECT! AND WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE. HERE THEY COME!
THIS WAY. WE MUST GO UP THE TUNNEL, THEN PASS THROUGH THE GREAT HALL.
HERE BEYOND THIS DOOR IS THE BURIAL CHAMBER.
WOW! THIS PLACE IS COOL!
LOOK OUT! INSIDE THE BURIAL CHAMBER, IMHOTEP PICKS UP A MALLET, AND--
CRACK
DISASTER! SAND SPILLS IN, RELEASING SECRET MECHANISMS, WHICH--

...SSSSSSSHHHHHHHAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHH!!
TO BE CONTINUED...

FWOOSH
THEY'RE... THEY'RE GONE! I'M... I'M...
GROAN!
DARN! I LOST MY BRA AGAIN. OH, WELL, WHO CARES? THIS IS GETTING TO BE FUN!
HEY!
WHERE ARE WE GOING, ANYWAY?
HARD TO SAY, CUPCAKE, HARD TO SAY.
The End?